

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 OMB-01 ACDA-10
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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5209

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK 1206

UNCLAS LUSAKA 0701

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RH, OAU, CG, ZA, AO, MZ, TZ, BC

SUBJ: SOUTHERN AFRICA HIGHLIGHTS IN ZAMBIAN PRESS - MARCH 16

REF: KINSHASA 2283 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: ZAMBIAN PRESS MARCH 16 FEATURED ROBERT MUGABE'S CALL FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TO THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE FROM THE OAU; NEED FOR INTEGRATION OF ZANU AND ZAPU ELEMENTS OF ZIPA TO AVOID CIVIL WAR IN ZIMBABWE AND PF'S CONFINED WILLINGNESS TO ATTEND ANOTHER CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA. GRZ FONMIN MWALE DESCRIBED FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS AS ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS, NOT BY-STANDERS, IN EVENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. JOSHUA NKOMO RETURNED TO LUSAKA. ZAMBIAN UNION OFFICIAL ALLEGED INSINCERE TRAVELLING BRITISH UNCLASSIFIED

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POLITICIANS TURNING FRONTLINE STATES INTO PLEASURE RESORTS AND CLAIMED BRITISH AND AMERICAN DIPLOMATS OUT TO PRESERVE HOME FOR THEIR "KITH AND KIN" IN ZIMBABWE. DAILY MAIL CARRIED A REPORT OF ZAIRE RADIO BROADCAST IN WHICH FRONTLINE STATES ACCUSED OF BEHAVING IN WAY HAZARDOUS TO AFRICAN UNITY. END SUMMARY

1. ZAMBIAN PRESS MARCH 16 HIGHLIGHTED COMMENTS BY ROBERT

MUGABE IN BEIRA MARCH 15. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS, MUGABE APPEALED TO OAU MEMBER STATES FOR ADDITIONAL MILITARY SUPPLIES TO PRESECUTE THE LIBERATION WAR. MUGABE SAID FRONTLINE STATES WERE STARVING THEIR ECONOMIES BY AIDING THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS. MATERIAL ASSISTANCE COMING FROM OAU AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WAS CURRENTLY NOT SUFFICIENT TO TOPPLE SMITH'S REGIME. HE SAID EFFORTS OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO RECONSTITUTE ZIPA BY INTEGRATING ZANU AND ZAPU FREEDOM FIGHTERS INTO ONE FORCE WAS A STEP TOWARD AVOIDING THE POSSIBILITY OF CIVIL WAR AT INDEPENDENCE. MUGABE SAID, THE PF COULD NOT IGNORE A CONFERENCE AT WHICH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO TRANSFER POWER TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE USELESS FOR THE PF TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE ON THE BASIS OF PROPOSALS ACCEPTABLE TO SMITH. MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE WERE FREE TO JOIN ANY WING OF THE PF AND COULD DO SO BY MAKING APPLICATION. MUGABE EXPRESSED DOUBT MUZOREW WOULD JOIN PF BECAUSE HIS CONDITION FOR AFFILIATION IS THAT MUGABE SHOULD SPLIT WITH NKOMO.

2. GRZ FOREIGN MINISTER SITEKE MWALE TOLD REPORTERS WHILE RETURNING FROM BEIRA THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS ARE NO LONGER BY-STANDERS; THEY ARE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN WHAT IS GOING ON IN RHODESIA, NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA.

3. DAILY MAIL REPORTER, CITING PF SOURCES IN BEIRA, REPORTS AGENTS OF THE RHODESIAN REGIME HAVE INFILTRATED THE PF. ONE PURPOSE OF THIS INFILTRATION IS TO POISON FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN MILITARY CAMPS OUTSIDE OF ZIMBABWE. RHODESIAN AGENTS ALSO HAVE SUPPLIED RADIOS FITTED WITH BOOBY-TRAPS AND WERE ENGAGED IN INTELLIGENCE COLLECTING ACTIVITIES. LIBERATION FORCES HAVE NOW UNCLASSIFIED

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INSTITUTED INTENSIVE SCREENING PROCEDURES AMONG GUERRILLA RECRUITS TO DETECT SMITH AGENTS.

4. JOSHUA NKOMO IS REPORTED TO HAVE ARRIVED IN LUSAKA MARCH 15 FROM A TRIP TO THE SOVIET UNION AND GERMANY ENROUTE TO LONDON FOR A STAY OF UNDETERMINED LENGTH.

5. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ZAMBIAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS (ZCTU), NEWSTEAD ZIMBA SAID IN KITWE MARCH 15 THAT WITH REFERENCE TO FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN'S PROPOSED VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA, THE FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS SHOULD TURN A DEAF EAR TO THE MACHINATIONS OF BRITISH POLITICIANS POSTURING THAT THEY WERE INTERESTED IN PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN ZIMBABWE. ZIMBA WENT ON TO SAY. "WE ARE SICK AND TIRED OF THESE SAFARIS BY BRITISH AND AMERICAN DIPLOMATS WHO ARE DOING EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO ENSURE THEIR KITH AND KIN HAVE A HOME IN ZIMBABWE." BRITISH PROPOSALS ARE A WASTE OF TIME AND DESIGNED TO GIVE SMITH TIME TO ARM HIS FORCES WITH SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS, SAID ZIMBA.

6. DAILY MAIL CARRIED AN ACCOU OF A ZAIRE RADIO BROADCAST (PARA 8 REFTTEL) ACCUSING THE FRONTLINE STATES OF SUBVERSION AGAINST THEIR NEIGHBORS WHICH TREATENS TO SPLIT AFRICA APART. PRESS ACCOUNT, IN ADDITION TO NOTING THE DISMANTLING OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY ALLUDES TO THE CONDUCT ADOPTED BY THE FRONTLINE COUNTRIES MORE THAN A YEAR AGO (ON ANGOLA) AS CONDUCIVE TO PRODUCING A COMPLETE SPLIT IN AFRICA. PRESS ACCOUNT GOES ON TO QUOTE RADIO BROADCAST AS SAYING, "THESE COUNTRIES MAKE UP AN EXCLUSIVE CLUB WHOSE ONLY MOTTO IS HYPROCISY. THIS HYPROCISY CAN BE SEEN IN THE BEHAVIOR OF THESE COUNTRIES TOWARDS AFRICA AS A WHOLE AND THEIR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA. FRONTLINE COUNTRIES' TRADE WITH PRETORIA STRENGTHEN THAT REGIME WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THESE COUNTRIES TAKE A HOSTILE POLITICAL STAND TOWARDS PRETORIA. THIS CAN ONLY CONFUSE AND DIVIDE THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA. "THE FIGHT AGAINST PRETORIA IS THE FIGHT FOR OUR WHOLE CONTINENT. IT IS NOT THE PRESERVE OF AN EXCLUSIVE CLUB, THE MEMBERSHIP WHICH IS RESERVED TO THOSE WHO CALLED THEMSELVES

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